

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to update the status of the continuation data.

Claims 1; 3; and 4 have been amended. Claims 2, 5 to 7, and 10 to 25 have been canceled. New claims 26 to 34 have been added.

Claims 1; 3; 4; 8; 9; and 26 to 34 remain in the application. Of these, claims 1; 26 and 31 are independent system claims.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in light of these amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1; 3; 4; and 9 as originally filed stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based upon Talish et al. US 6,432,070 (Talish). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon Talish in view of Peterson et al. US 6,126,619 (Peterson).

Independent claim 1 has been amended and new independent claims 26 and 31 have been added to define a system for applying ultrasound energy to the thoracic cavity of an individual while being transported comprising an electric signal generating machine sized to be transported with the individual, an ultrasound applicator sized to be placed to the chest of the individual while being transported to transcutaneously apply ultrasound energy to the thoracic cavity, and a stabilization assembly affixed to the ultrasound applicator to stabilize placement of the ultrasound applicator on the chest during application of ultrasound energy to the thoracic cavity. As defined in the claims, the stabilization assembly is sized and configured to leave the chest of the individual on opposing lateral surfaces of the ultrasound applicator substantially uncovered by the stabilization assembly to allow another treatment device to be placed alongside the ultrasound applicator at the same time the ultrasound applicator is placed on the chest and affixed to the stabilization assembly. This feature is shown in Figs. 4 and 5, and described in the Specification on page 11, line 34 to page 12, line 4, as well as page 12, lines 15 to 18.

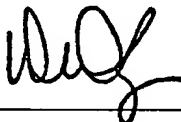
As defined in new independent claim 31, the stabilization assembly comprises a first component affixed to the top surface of the ultrasound applicator and a second component affixed to the bottom surface of the ultrasound application, such that the lateral side surfaces of the ultrasound applicator is not affixed to any component of the stabilization assembly. As defined in amended claim 1, the stabilization assembly takes the form of a sling assembly comprising a waist loop and a shoulder loop. As defined in new claim 26, the stabilization assembly takes the form of a

halter assembly comprising a top halter strap worn about the shoulders and a bottom halter strap worn about the back.

Neither Talish nor Peterson (nor the tertiary reference Barsotti US 4,791,915) teaches or suggests a stabilization assembly for a chest-mounted ultrasound applicator that allows other treatment devices, e.g., a twelve lead ECG, to be placed alongside the applicator on the chest at the same time the applicator is being used. In Talish (Fig. 2), an applicator is mounted on the chest by a belt that covers the chest on both lateral sides of the applicator. There is nothing in Talish (or Peterson or Barsotti) that teaches or suggests or contemplates stabilizing an ultrasound applicator on the chest of an individual in transit while also making possible the simultaneous placement of other treatment devices on the chest alongside the ultrasound applicator.

For these reasons, allowance of claims 1; 3; 4; 8; 9; and 26 to 34 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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